

BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 10, 2020

The Gerry Town Board met at 6:30 PM, December 10, 2020, at the Gerry Town Hall for the regular monthly board meeting.

Present were: Richard C. Heath, Supervisor
 Gary J. Swan, Councilman
 Linda D. Bartholomew, Councilwoman
 Randy J. Zahm, Councilman
 Bruce Gustafson, Councilman
 Recia L. Myers, Town Clerk
 Eric Yager, Zoning Officer
 William Duncanson Jr., Town Attorney
 Brian Anderson, Highway Superintendent

CALL TO ORDER:

Supervisor Heath called the meeting to order and led the pledge of allegiance.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Supervisor Heath announced that this would be Councilwoman Bartholomew's last Board Meeting as she is resigning at the end of December. Supervisor Heath thanked Linda for her 13 years of service and presented her with a Certificate of Appreciation. Councilwoman Bartholomew thanked all the Board Members who appointed her and was grateful to serve and have the opportunity to be on the board. She noted that everyone on the board may have different opinions but everyone has all come together with great conclusions and she feels right now the board is wonderful and always puts the community first. The Board reminisced about the past with Councilwoman Bartholomew and all the good times they have had.

COMMUNICATIONS:

No Communications.

OFFICERS REPORT:

ZONING OFFICER:

Eric Yager, Zoning Officer, commented that per the Town Board's request he gave a log of the 2020 permits issued and will supply the board once every six months with the breakdown. The Board was happy with the details. Eric Yager, Zoning Officer, explained how Universal Tooling has been in contact with him and Supervisor Heath regarding the building next door and they were given an estimate of \$40,000.00 to take it down with the asbestos study costing \$15,000.00 alone. They contacted the Land bank and they were told to donate the property to the Town and then the Land bank would remove the building for free, but they will not touch the property until the property is in the Town's name. Councilman Swan was concerned if the Town were to get stuck with this and had to pay and he feels the town should not be responsible for their problem.

William Duncanson, Jr., Town Attorney, commented that he sees Councilman Swan's understanding and explained that the Village of Sinclairville actually went through the process and the Land Bank did come and clean an area up that was an eye sore and a problem and he suggested having Supervisor Heath meet with the Land Bank a few times to discuss and make sure that they will be willing to remove the building. Councilwoman Bartholomew commented that the Town could possibly use that property for parking and it could be beneficial in long run as the Army Reserves is taking too long. Councilman Gustafson asked if the neighboring church could receive the property and go through the process but Town Attorney, William Duncanson, Jr., noted that the Land Bank only deals with municipalities and government entities.

Eric Yager, Zoning Officer, commented that what has been done with other towns is that once the Town receives the property and the buildings are removed by the Land Bank the Town could then sell the property and profit and it takes the burden off the landowner and removes the eye-sore and helps the cost of property taxes.

Supervisor Heath discussed that he keeps trying to contact the Army Reserves and they explain it is still on hold and he will contact the Land Bank and present everything to the Town Board regarding the Universal Tooling Property at a later date.

DOG CONTROL OFFICER:

Dog Control Officer, Matt Abbey, was absent but left a note that it has been quiet and he had his annual Inspection by the NYS Ag and Markets and it passed.

Councilman Gustafson asked about the dog bite incident on Wilson Street. Discussion. Supervisor Heath noted most likely the incident will be in his report for next month.

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT:

Brian Anderson, Highway Superintendent, reported that they are getting ready for winter and fall mowing has been done. He explained that on one of the snowy days he ending up going in the ditch with the Chevy and the insurance company declared it as totaled. They estimated the truck to be worth approximately \$12,500.00. Highway Superintendent, Brian Anderson, looked into the cost of new trucks and presented the board with quotes from Chevy and Ford and he never received a quote back from Dodge. Discussion regarding the warranties and price difference for the long bed and short bed occurred and Councilman Zahm asked if he could just use the new Ford instead and eliminate a truck. Brian said it's possible but if the old fire truck needs used to tar and for other things etc. it would be kind of an inconvenience. The Town Board discussed and felt with the amount the insurance is giving them it would be best just to purchase a new truck.

A motion was made by Councilman Swan to allow Highway Superintendent, Brian Anderson, to purchase a 2021 Chevrolet Silverado, Double Cab Work Truck for \$28,377.00 and the check for the accident from the truck will be deposited once received from the Insurance Company into the Highway General Town wide Fund, seconded by Councilwoman Bartholomew. Approved.

Highway Superintendent, Brian Anderson, also discussed a 1949 Osh Kosh Snow blower that was talked about in 2017 of being considered surplus and the Town of Cherry Creek and Town of Charlotte has shared this snow blower and it was never declared surplus and now they would like to so they can sell and receive money from this. Recia Myers, Town Clerk, and

William Duncanson, Jr., Town Attorney, worked on a Resolution which will be presented. Mr. Anderson will have a limit on the amount so that they receive the best amount to divide among the municipalities.

ASSESSORS REPORT:

No Report received.

COMMITTEES, BOARDS & AGENCIES:

SPECIAL ORDERS:

Resolution No. 40 - 2020. 2020 Budget Transfer. A motion was made by Councilman Swan, seconded by Councilwoman Bartholomew. Approved.

Resolution No. 41 – 2020. Modifications to 2020 Budget. A motion was made by Councilwoman Bartholomew, seconded by Councilman Zahm. Approved.

Resolution No. 42 – 2020. Declaring a 1949 Osh Kosh as Surplus. A motion was made by Councilman Zahm, seconded by Councilman Gustafson. Discussion. Highway Superintendent, Brian Anderson, noted he will provide the amount that was bid on at the next board meeting. Approved.

Minute approval for the November Board meeting and the Public Hearing for the 2021 Preliminary Budget, along with the Supervisor’s Monthly Report. A motion was made by Councilman Gustafson, seconded by Councilman Swan. Approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

Local Law No. 1 of 2021 regarding Storage Containers was introduced and the Town Board set a Public Hearing for the Local Law on January 14th, 2021 at 6:45 PM.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Year End Meeting was scheduled for December 30th at 4:30 PM and the Organizational Meeting will be held on January 4, 2021 at 4:30 PM.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

VOUCHER APPROVAL:

Highway Fund Vouchers #158 – 174 totaling \$13,346.94 was approved on a motion by Councilwoman Bartholomew, seconded by Councilman Zahm. Approved.

General Fund Voucher’s #311 - 339 totaling \$3,808.40 was approved on a motion by Councilman Zahm, seconded by Councilman Gustafson. Approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The next board meeting will be held 6:30 PM, January 14, 2021 at the town hall.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM on a motion by Councilman Gustafson, seconded by Councilman Zahm. Approved.

Minutes Taken by,

Recia L. Myers,
Gerry Town Clerk